



**St Michael's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Sunday, August 29 2021—10:00 a.m.**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

## Welcome Statement

St. Michael's Lutheran Church lives out God's grace and love for all people. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we welcome those who have been part of church communities, those who have no previous church experience, and those who have felt excluded by the Church because of their race or ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental capabilities, financial resources, or family circumstances. In this witness we seek reconciliation, healing, and wholeness. As a diverse people we are then empowered by the Holy Spirit to live and work together for God's promised day of justice, peace, and mercy.

In Christ's love, we welcome you!



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is a  
Reconciling In Christ Congregation.



St. Michael's Lutheran Church is  
a member of the ELCA.

On Sunday mornings, we have *A Wiggle Room* available if someone you're worshipping with needs to get some wiggles out. Our *Wiggle Room* is found in our Courtyard Room, located near the main entrance to the sanctuary.

Please have an adult with your child(ren). Continue to wear a face mask, and maintain a physical distance of six feet from other households.

We continue to use protocols in worship to protect children, youth and those who have not yet completed COVID-19 vaccinations. Our protocols will continue to adapt in the weeks and months ahead.

# Sunday, August 29, 2021

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The readings for today prompt us to think about the relationships of hypocrisy to social life. Mark warns about the dangers of social hypocrisy. James offers an antidote to such hypocrisy: living out the social values of Jesus, which are also the social values of Israel. The psalms emphasize that the holy God calls for holy living that eschews hypocrisy and includes justice in relationships.

### +GATHERING+

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

*Of Foreign Lands and Peoples*  
Robert Schumann

#### INVOCATION

Blessed be the Holy Trinity ✚, one God,  
whose compassion covers all creation,  
whose faithfulness touches all generations.  
**Amen.**

#### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us tell the truth to God about ourselves and our world,  
trusting in Jesus' promise that "the truth shall set us  
free." (John 8:32) We pray:

*Silence is held as we open our hearts in prayer.*

God, our healer and our hope,  
**We live in a beautiful world made broken by sin; by the  
violent and deceitful acts of individuals and the  
negligence and apathy of many. We have inherited the**

In the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) hymnal, "hymn" numbers are found at the top of the page; "page" numbers are found at the bottom of the page.

All are invited to make the sign of the cross ✚ as the presiding minister begins. This sign given to us in our baptism reminds us of our identity as followers of Christ

consequences of another generation's actions, and in turn we pass on our failures and failings to those who will come after us. Disrupt our ways of greed, division, and fear with your love that frees us from all that holds us captive. Amen.

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God's forgiveness is abundant, softening our wounds into wisdom, shaping our weakness into compassion, and molding our fear into trust. This is the grace by which we are saved.

### GATHERING HYMN

*Gather Us In*  
ELW 532

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God,

**you call us to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit through loving your creation and our neighbor.**

**Open our hearts in compassion and fill us with your wisdom. Make yourself known to us this day through the breaking of the bread, the sharing of the cup, the speaking of your Word, and the presence of this community. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.**

### +WORD+

### FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter

and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the people, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to the Most High? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

## PSALM

## Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,  
and speak the truth from their heart;**

who do not slander with their tongue,

and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

**in whose eyes the wicked are despised,**

**but who honor those who fear the Lord;**

who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest,

and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

**Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

Ancient tradition identifies Moses as the author of Deuteronomy. Today, many scholars believe that Deuteronomy was edited by a nameless exilic editor or many editors overtime. The book of Deuteronomy is the fifth book in the Torah, the first part of the Jewish scriptures

Psalm 15 has a teaching purpose. It encourages us to think about how we as individuals, families, and communities are invited to live in God's presence with joy and integrity.

- Dr. Esther Menn,  
Lutheran School of  
Theology, Chicago, IL

The author of the letter James is disputed: it has been traditionally identified with James the brother of Jesus, leader of the Jerusalem church and martyred just before the outbreak of the Jewish War of 66-70 C.E. Other historians read this letter to be pseudonymous, written by an unknown Christian who deliberately associated the exhortation of this wisdom "sermon" with a revered church leader from the past. Whether its origins are from the brother of Jesus or a later Christian author, the work provides ancient wisdom to present-day ears.

## SECOND READING

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to free your whole being. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p.124



The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,' are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes. A double bar line is at the end of the second staff. The number 'S124' is printed in the top right corner of the musical notation area.

**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21a

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart that evil intentions come.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ!****SERMON**

The Rev. Ali Ferin

**ANTHEM***Be Thou my Vision*

## +MEAL+

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all  
**And also with you.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God."*

*The congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."*

Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**This is Christ's table where all are welcome!**

**The body of Christ is given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.**

Communion will be distributed in the pews. If you did not receive elements upon entering the sanctuary an usher can provide them to you.



## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus Christ, healer and host,  
**through bread and cup you have given us your presence  
that strengthens and sustains us. Filled again by your  
grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice and thirst  
for your way of peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## +SENDING+

### BENEDICTION

May God go before you to lead you.  
May God go behind you to guard you.  
May God go beneath you to support you.  
May God go beside you to befriend you.  
And let the blessing of God the Father +, Son, and Holy  
Spirit, Mother of us all, be upon you. Do not be afraid.  
**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**     *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*  
ELW 772

### SENDING

Go in peace, you are the body of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

*Allegro Maestoso*  
G. F. Handel

Our worship is over,  
our service begins.

## **Worship Notes:**

Benediction adapted from Neal Plantinga Jr., Calvin Theological Seminary.

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## **Participants in Today's Worship**

**Pastors:** *Rev. Ali Ferin, Rev. Brad Froslee*

**Musician:** *Thomas Bartsch, organ*

**Special Music:** *Megan Mathison Wynia*

**Lector:** *Dolores Rivard*

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## **St. Michael's Lutheran Church**

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## **Announcements**

### **Fall Kick-off & Registration**

Sunday, September 12, 10:00 a.m.

### **First Day of Sunday School**

September 19, 10:00 a.m.

### **Faith in Daily Life**

September 8, 12:00 p.m.

### **First Day of Youth Music Rehearsals**

September 8

Youth Bells 5:30 p.m.

Celebration Singers 6:30 pm.

Spirit Choir 7:30 p.m.

### **Confirmation Parent Meeting**

September 8, 6:00 p.m.

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

September 9, 9:30am

### **Adult Choir Rehearsal**

September 9, Thursday, 6:30

### **Monday Morning Ministries**

September 13, 7:00 a.m.

### **Fall Yoga Devotion**

September 13, 6:30 p.m.

### **Sarah Circle**

September 14, 9:30 a.m.

### **Elisabeth Circle**

September 15, 1:00 p.m.

### **Desserters II Book Club**

September 28 , 7:00 p.m.



## **This Week at St. Michael's**

### **Sunday, August 29**

- 10:00 a.m.   Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m.   Fellowship Hour

### **Monday, August 30**

- 12:00 p.m.   Staff Meeting
- 7:00 p.m.    Worship Outside
- 7:45 p.m.    Fellowship Hour

### **Tuesday, August 31**

- 5:30 p.m.    Golf at Como

### **Sunday, September 5**

- 10:00 a.m.   Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m.   Fellowship Hour

### **Monday, September 6**

- Office Closed, Labor Day
- 4:00 p.m.    Rezek House Meal

See your *Friday Flyer*, monthly *Messenger*, or website for more information.